

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A patch bag comprising a bag and a patch adhered thereto, the bag having a heat seal capable of withstanding a temperature of at least 70°C for a period of at least 4 hours, the patch being adhered to the bag with an adhesive capable of maintaining adhesion of the patch to the bag at a temperature of at least 97°C for a period of at least 10 minutes.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is capable of maintaining adhesion of the patch to the bag at a temperature of at least 97°C for a period of at least 20 minutes.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is capable of maintaining adhesion of the patch to the bag at a temperature of at least 97°C for a period of at least 45 minutes.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises polyurethane.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the bag is made from a film having a total free shrink of at least 10 percent at 185°F, and the patch is made from a heat-shrinkable film having a total free shrink of at least 10 percent at 185°F.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the bag has a seal layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyamide and polypropylene.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the seal is through the bag and not through the patch.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the seal is through the bag and through the patch.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 1, wherein the bag is an end-seal bag and the patch overhangs both side edges of the bag.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 9, wherein the seal is through the patch and the bag.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The patch bag according to Claim 9, wherein each lay-flat side of the side of the bag has a patch adhered thereto, with both patches overhanging both side edges of the bag, with overhanging portions of each of the patches being adhered to one another.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A patch bag comprising a bag having a patch adhered thereto, the bag having a heat seal capable of withstanding a temperature of at least 70°C for a period of at least 4 hours, the patch being adhered to the bag with an adhesive capable of maintaining adhesion

of the patch to the bag at a temperature of at least 60°C for a period of at least 4 hours, wherein the patch does not cover a portion of the bag between the patch and the open top of the bag.

Claim 13 (original): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the adhesive is capable of maintaining adhesion of the patch to the bag at a temperature of 60°C for a period of at least 7 hours.

Claim 14 (original): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the adhesive is capable of maintaining adhesion of the patch to the bag at a temperature of 60°C for a period of at least 10 hours.

Claim 15 (original): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the adhesive comprises polyurethane.

Claim 16 (original): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the bag is made from a film having a total free shrink of at least 10 percent at 185°F, and the patch is made from a heat-shrinkable film having a total free shrink of at least 10 percent at 185°F.

Claim 17 (original): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the bag has a seal layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyamide and polypropylene.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A process for preparing a cooked bone-in meat product, comprising:

(A) placing an uncooked, bone-in meat product into a patch bag having a patch adhered to a bag with a urethane-based adhesive;

- (B) evacuating the atmosphere from within the bag;
- (C) sealing the bag shut so that the product is enveloped by the patch bag;
- (D) shrinking the bag;
- (E) cooking the product while the product is within the patch bag, the cooking being carried out at a temperature of at least 70°C for a period of at least 4 hours.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the seal is through the bag and not through the patch.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the seal is through the bag and through the patch.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the bag is an end-seal bag and the patch overhangs both side edges of the bag.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The patch bag according to Claim 21, wherein the seal is through the patch and the bag.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The patch bag according to Claim 21, wherein each lay-flat side of the side of the bag has a patch adhered thereto, with both patches overhanging both side edges of the bag, with overhanging portions of each of the patches being adhered to one another.

Claim 24 (new): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the bag is made from a film having a total free shrink of from 10 to 120 percent at 185°F, and the patch is made from a heat-shrinkable film having a total free shrink of fro 10 to 120 percent at 185°F.

Claim 25 (new): The patch bag according to Claim 12, wherein the bag is made from a film having a total free shrink of from 15 to 80 percent at 185°F, and the patch is made from a heat-shrinkable film having a total free shrink of fro 15 to 80 percent at 185°F.